

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SY-05
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FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3086
US CUSTOMS WASHDC
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INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KARACHI 1203

PARIS FOR DEA; ROME, BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, PK
SUBJECT: CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

REF: KARACHI 0925 (NOTAL)

1. AT SEVERAL POINTS DURING THE PAST YEAR GOP CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS HAVE VOICED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN OBTAINING FAA ASSISTANCE WITH THEIR AIRPORT SECURITY PROGRAMS. THIS INTEREST WAS REITERATED BY THE COMMANDER OF AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE, BRIG M.A.K. ZAHID DURING RECENT VISIT OF FAA SECURITY SPECIALIST, PUGLISI TO KARACHI. BRIG ZAHID VOICED INTEREST IN TRAINING MATERIALS SUCH AS THOSE LISTED IN REFERENCED CABLE, VISITATION OF SECURITY SPECIALIST TO HELP WITH LOCAL TRAINING EFFORTS AND SENDING OF SELECTED PAKISTANI SECURITY SPECIALISTS TO FAA TRAINING SCHOOLS IN THE STATES.

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2. CONCURRENTLY, OVER THE PAST YEAR PIA SECURITY OFFICIALS AND GOP CUSTOMS OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH OFFICERS AT THE KARACHI DEA OFFICE TO IMPROVE THEIR SECURITY/ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS AT CIVIL AIRPORTS. AS FEDERAL AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE BECAME ACTIVE IN OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONING OF AIRPORT

THEY TOO BECAME INVOLVED WITH THE DEA'S ANTI-SMUGGLING TRAINING PROGRAMS. DEA'S EFFORTS PROGRESSED TO THE POINT WHERE FORMAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE, PAKISTAN CUSTOMS, PIA SECURITY AND PAKISTAN NARCOTIC CONTROL BOARD FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PERMANENT INTER-AGENCY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT AND AIRPORT SECURITY UNDER DEA AUSPICES. FORMAL COMMENCEMENT FOR THIS PROGRAM WAS SCHEDULED FOR 15 FEB 78, HOWEVER, TRAINING AIDS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTATION HAVE NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED FROM DEA HQS. IN THE INTERIM, KARACHI DEA HAS IMPLEMENTED ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND SPECIALLY TAILORED SEMINARS FOR THE VARIOUS AGENCIES AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF ASSISTING PIA IN DEVELOPING SECURITY AND ANTI-SMUGGLING PROCEDURES FOR ITS FLIGHT CREWS.

3. THE RECENT HIJACKING OF PIA AIRCRAFT (THERE HAVE BEEN TWO WITHIN THE LAST SIX WEEKS) HAVE GREATLY INCREASED THE INTERESTS OF GOP'S CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS FOR THEIR CIVIL AVIATION/AIRPORT SECURITY. THEY ARE NOW EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND ORGANIZATION OF THE AGENCIES INVOLVED IN AIRPORT SECURITY AS WELL AS IMPROVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND PROFESSIONALISM OF INDIVIDUAL AIRPORT SECURITY OFFICERS. THUS, IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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THE ASSESSMENT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL THAT NOW IS THE OPPORTUNE TIME FOR USG TO GO FORWARD WITH A COORDINATED PROPOSAL TO AID PAKISTAN WITH ITS CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY PROGRAM. IF PROPERLY ORCHESTRATED SUCH AN EFFORT CAN SERVE MUTUAL USG INTEREST: A. IMPROVE CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY IN PAKISTAN. B. SUPPORT DEA'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ANTI-SMUGGLING AND ANTI-NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS AT PAKISTAN'S CIVIL AIRPORTS. C. DEMONSTRATE THE WILLINGNESS OF U.S. TO HELP PAKISTAN IN AREAS OF NEED. D. ESTABLISH CONTACTS IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS WHICH WILL BE HIGHLY USEFUL TO THE MISSION AS A WHOLE.

4. WE RECOMMEND THE FAA SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SENDING A TEAM OF TWO SECURITY SPECIALIST TO PAKISTAN TO WORK WITH THE LOCAL DEA OFFICE, IN PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF A CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY TRAINING PACKAGE. A US CUSTOMS PATROL OFFICER IS PRESENTLY TDY AT KARACHI TO ASSIST THE DEA IN ANOTHER PROGRAM AND COULD POSSIBLY ASSIST WITH A CIVIL AIR SECURITY TRAINING PROGRAM IF AUTHORIZATION

IS RECEIVED FROM US CUSTOMS HQS. WE
FURTHER RECOMMEND THAT THIS TRAINING TAKE PLACE
WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS, AND NO LATER THAN
FIRST OF APRIL AS IT WOULD BE BEST TO MOVE WHEN
PAKISTANI INTEREST IS AT ITS ZENITH. IN ALL
PROBABILITY IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THE FAA
SECURITY SPECIALISTS TO REMAIN IN PAKISTAN TWO TO
THREE WEEKS AND THEY WILL BE TRAVELLING THROUGH
PAKISTAN CONDUCTING BOTH SURVEYS AND TRAINING.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY ISLAMABAD COMMENT ON AND APPROVAL OF
THIS PROPOSAL AND ADDRESSEES' COMMENT-INITIAL
REACTION ASAP. IF IT IS POSITIVE, CONSULATE GENERAL
WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS
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FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION.
MOORE

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Message Attributes

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